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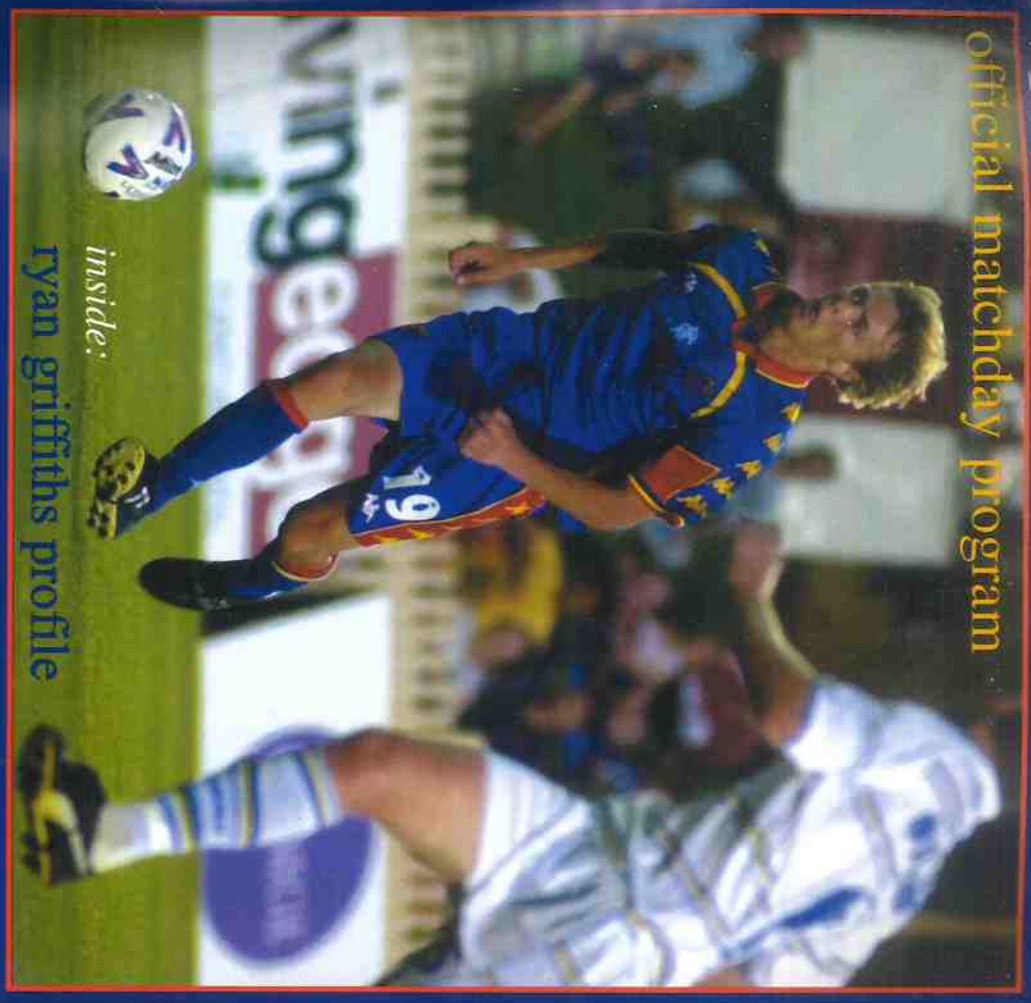

matchday

official matchday program

Pag. 23/05/16

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contents

In your latest issue of Spirit Matchday:

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Pages 18/19	Find out the latest news from both on and off the field at Northern Spirit.
Page 20	Spirit Matchday takes a look at January's trip to Australia by the Rangers Youth Team.
Pages 22	See how Spirit's Youth Team are faring so far this season.

NEXT HOME GAME: Round 15

19/1/01 NORTHERN SPIRIT vs South Melbourne

7.30pm North Sydney Oval

coach's column

What a difference it makes having a quality goalscorer in the side.

The introduction of Ben Burgess to the Northern Spirit side this season has been one of the major factors behind our return to the top six.

Ben is a true goalscorer and although he could easily have had a hat trick against Brisbane at North Sydney Oval two weeks ago he still found the back of the net to give us a 1-0 win.

The strike allowed Ben to stay at the top of the NSL goalscoring list, the first time we have had a player at the top of the goalscoring list since the birth of Northern Spirit two and a half years ago.

More importantly he was able to thread the ball through a couple of defenders to give us all three points against a fired up Brisbane.

Big Ben has made all the difference up front and it is amazing how much confidence it gives the rest of the side knowing there is a guy up front who can stick the ball away.

Ben is now approaching Robbie Slater as the highest goalscorer in the history of the club. Robbie has scored 10 goals in his 57 matches for Northern Spirit.

Speaking of Robbie, he is recovering well from a foot injury and we are

hoping to have him back in another two weeks.

While Ben received the applause for his match winning goals against Brisbane I was very impressed with the performance of Ryan Griffiths.

Ryan came into the starting side for the first time this year and played well. He threw himself around and had a couple of opportunities well saved by Brisbane 'keeper Daniel Duke. He also made a great chance for Ben, which he could not convert.

Ryan has had to bide his time in the youth team behind Ben and Alex Moreira but he did well against Brisbane and proved to everyone at the club that he has a good future in the NSL.

Tonight we take on Canberra in another must win match that will be no easy task. Tom Sermanni has the Cosmos playing some good football and they always come out looking to attack so it should be very entertaining.

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Macquarie

profile ryan griffiths

NSL defences have had enough problems keeping one Northern Spirit 19 year old quiet this season - so expect them to be less than thrilled about the inclusion of another.

Ben Burgess has grabbed many headlines this season, not only for his goals but also his all-round play, and for the past two games has had a fellow teenager partnering him. And Ryan Griffiths couldn't be happier.

"Its great playing up-front with Ben", says Griffiths. "We get on really well off the field, and on it we seem to know where each other is going to run."

Griffiths is three months older than Burgess, and while the latter was brought up in Lancashire, it seems entirely appropriate that when Spirit Matchday tries getting hold of the former, he is at the beach. With his looks you would expect little else.

Griffiths is a former Sutherland junior who also played for Sydney United's youth teams, but it was through the Spirit's Youth and Colts team that he made his name.

A first grade contract was signed at the start of this season, and with a number of strikers unavailable a substitute appearance followed in the first round loss to Sydney United.

A spell back in the Youth League - and 5 goals - followed, before it was back into the first team for some substitute appearances, and then a starting spot against Brisbane.

"The club had me training with the first team at the start of that week, so although nothing was said to me I guessed I had a fair chance of starting against Brisbane. Then 'Arnie' came up and gave me confirmation, and also a talk as to what he wanted from me."

Griffiths proved a lively customer in a 1-0 win over the Strikers, although he admits there is a huge difference in playing in the NSL and National Youth League.

"The Youth League is good, but to play in the NSL you have to be about 50% fitter! Its so much more physical, and you can't have a breather at any time."

Griffiths is confident enough to admit that while he enjoyed the game time back in the National Youth League, he feels he is good enough to play in the NSL.

"I set myself a personal goal of getting in the Australian Under 20's side this year," he says, "but more importantly I want Spirit to make the top 6 - and we'll take it from there."

His best Spirit moment so far?

"Probably my first goal in the NSL for the club...against Gippsland it was, I think!"

It's well documented that Ryan's elder brothers, twins Joel and Adam are both playing in the NSL, with Joel at Parramatta Power and Adam currently on loan from the Spirit to Eastern Pride, but they must have played in the same team as juniors?

"I played with Joel when we were at Sydney United in the youth team, and alongside Adam for Spirit's youth team."

A teammate of Joel's is also the toughest defender Ryan has come up against so far, nominating Joe Vrkic as being especially tough to beat.

Like most players, Griffiths says that eventually he would like to play overseas, and lists the likes of Thierry Henry, David Ginola and David Beckham as class players.

There is a long way to go for Griffiths, especially in just keeping his place from the likes of Alex Moreira and Tony Perinich, but in the meantime NSL defences are on their toes at the sight of yet another Northern Spirit player coming through the junior ranks.

TODAY'S SQUADS

1	John Perosh
2	Michael Cunico
3	Matthew Langdon
4	Matthew Bingley
5	Mark Rudan
6	Scott Thomas
7	Robbie Slater
8	Robbie Enes
9	Alex Moreira
10	Gabriel Mendez
11	Troy Cranney
12	Ben Burgess
13	Phil Moss
14	Noel Spencer
15	Tony Perinich
16	Simon Catanzaro
17	Paul Bilokapic
18	Daniel Watkins
19	Ryan Griffiths
20	Paul Henderson
21	Adam Griffiths
22	Jacek Sobczyk
23	Adam Snyder
24	Tony Faria
28	Ian Crook
30	Graham Arnold

COACH: Graham Arnold

Angelo Konstantinou	1
	2
Toplica Popovich	3
Andrew Ravenello	4
Nicholas Purdue	5
Naoki Imaya	6
Mark Hagger	7
David Milin	8
Alex Castro	9
Jon Angelucci	10
David Arranz	11
Milton Cortes	12
Shane Lyons	13
Andy Rakic	14
Marcus Phillips	15
Ilija Prenzoski	16
Robbie Hooker	17
Brad Scott	18
Hiroshi Miyazawa	19
Barney Smith	20
Rade Kosanovic	29
	30

COACH: Tom Sermanni

opposition lowdown

Tom Sermanni's Canberra arrive at North Sydney Oval tonight having taken just one point from their last five games, but are not a team to be taken lightly.

Their three wins this season have been against the Melbourne Knights, Parramatta Power and an away success at Wollongong, and having beaten us at both North Sydney Oval and North Power Stadium in the last two seasons we will need to be on our game to collect maximum points tonight.

Sermanni was forced to go into last week's game against the Kingz without skipper Robbie Hooker, Uruguayan Milton Cortes and injured goalkeeper Barney Smith. Angelo Konstantinou will probably start in goal tonight for the Cosmos, while in defence Toplica Popovich has enjoyed another consistent season so far and is the only player to have made 100 appearances for the Cosmos.

Former Spirit defender Nic Purdue will need no introduction after wearing the number 2 shirt in Spirit's first season in the NSL, although 30-year old Japanese defender Hiroshi Miyazawa is probably less well-known.

In midfield David Arranz had made 29 NSL appearances before the start of the season - all with Canberra - while former Australian Schoolboy Andy Ravanello has played a similar number of games.

Alex Castro has put in some fine performances for the Cosmos this season, the former Adelaide Sharks player, like Cortes, hailing from Uruguay. Englishman Marcus Phillips, a former Swindon Town player, has made an impact in the NSL with both Marconi and Sydney Olympic, and he will try to use his experience in the middle of the park.

In attack Sermanni started last week with the in-form Jon Angelucci, currently enjoying his best season in the NSL after a stint in the NSW state league with Blacktown City. New Zealander Brad Scott wouldn't have enjoyed his team's defeat last week at the hands of the Kingz, but Mark Hagger, who like Angelucci spent time at Blacktown after a spell at Marconi, is pushing the two strikers for a starting spot.

Hagger came on as a substitute in the second half of last week's game, as did a third former Blacktown player, Naoki Imaya. The third substitute used was Shane Lyons, who like Purdue is a former Northern Spirit player.

Coach Sermanni, one of the most popular NSL coaches around, has plenty of experience after spending time coaching both the Australian Schoolboys team and Australian Women's National team, and the popular Scot also assisted Eddie Thomson at San Frecce in Japan.

Canberra Cosmos last five games:
L D L L L.

Canberra Cosmos 2000/01 record:
Pos 11 P 12 W 3 D 2 L 6 Bye 1 GF 21 GA 22 Pts. 14

fan's view

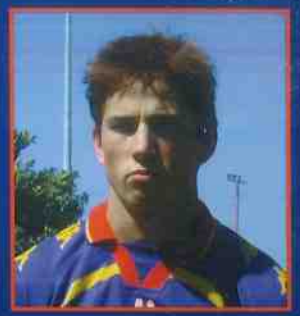
with Mark Fowler

Calls by Spirit Matchday for fans to send in pictures of themselves in the Spirit shirts have been heard - some 12,000 miles away! Although not quite what we had in mind, bearing in mind a picture of Spirit fans in North Sydney McDonalds is not exactly rare, this picture of English visitor James Dawson taken a few years ago is the sort of stuff we are after!

Keep 'em coming!

Congratulations too to Adam Griffiths, who scored his first NSL goal the day after we defeated Brisbane here at North Sydney Oval. Griffiths, who has now returned from loan at Eastern Pride, netted in the 70th minute to give Eastern Pride a 3-1 win over our visitor's tonight, Canberra.

With Griffiths at Eastern Pride was striker Daniel Watkins, also on loan from the Spirit, and he proved a hit in the struggling side. Watkins scored three goals at the club, one of them coming last weekend in a 4-2 loss at Wollongong.



Adam Griffiths

The official accommodation supplier of Northern Spirit - Rydges North Sydney, is offering Spirit supporters a special accommodation package. Spirit fans can make matchdays a special night out and stay at Rydges North Sydney for only $100.00 from Friday - Sunday (includes breakfast for two). A special weekday rate (Mon - Thurs) of $168.00 is also available to Spirit fans. To book phone 1800 226 466.

A reminder too that this page is for YOU, so please send anything in you wish to have included. If you have pictures of you wearing your shirts in unusual places send them too - either email to nsfc98@yahoo.com or MarkFowler@bigpond.com, or see one of the committee.

Northern Spirit Supporters club contact details:

Infoline (02) 8250 4004
Email: nsfc98@yahoo.com
Website: www.spiritfans.com.au

match report

with Dave Mason

Northern Spirit's undefeated run came to a shuddering halt against a red hot Parramatta Power side at Parramatta Stadium last Friday night.

In one of the most entertaining matches of the season the Spirit went down 3-0 under a 10 minute barrage in the second half when everything Parramatta touched turned to gold.

Three goals in 10 minutes was enough to bury Northern Spirit's hopes of equalling the club record of six matches unbeaten.

The two sides went to half time locked at 0-0 after one of the most exciting periods of the season in which Spirit hit the post three times including twice in five seconds when a Paul Bilokapic free kick rebounded off the post to Noel Spencer, whose shot hit the upright.

There was an element of bad luck for Spirit in the first term and they should have been two or three ahead. Good goalkeeping, the goalpost and some poor finishing meant the sides went to the break on equal terms.

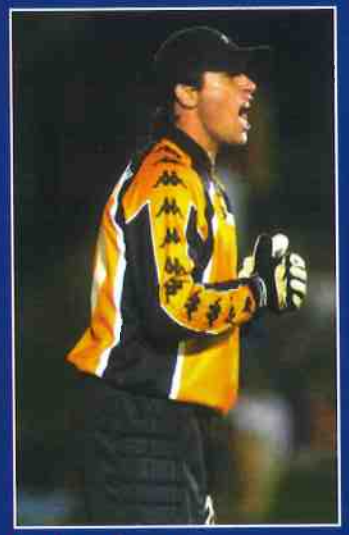
After the break the match continued at breakneck speed before Parramatta struck in the 63rd minute. The goal came through a defensive mix up in the Spirit penalty box and five minutes later David Lee struck a scorching 25m drive that Paul Henderson would have done well to see, let alone stop.

A third goal followed with the Spirit defence in disarray and the match was as good as gone.

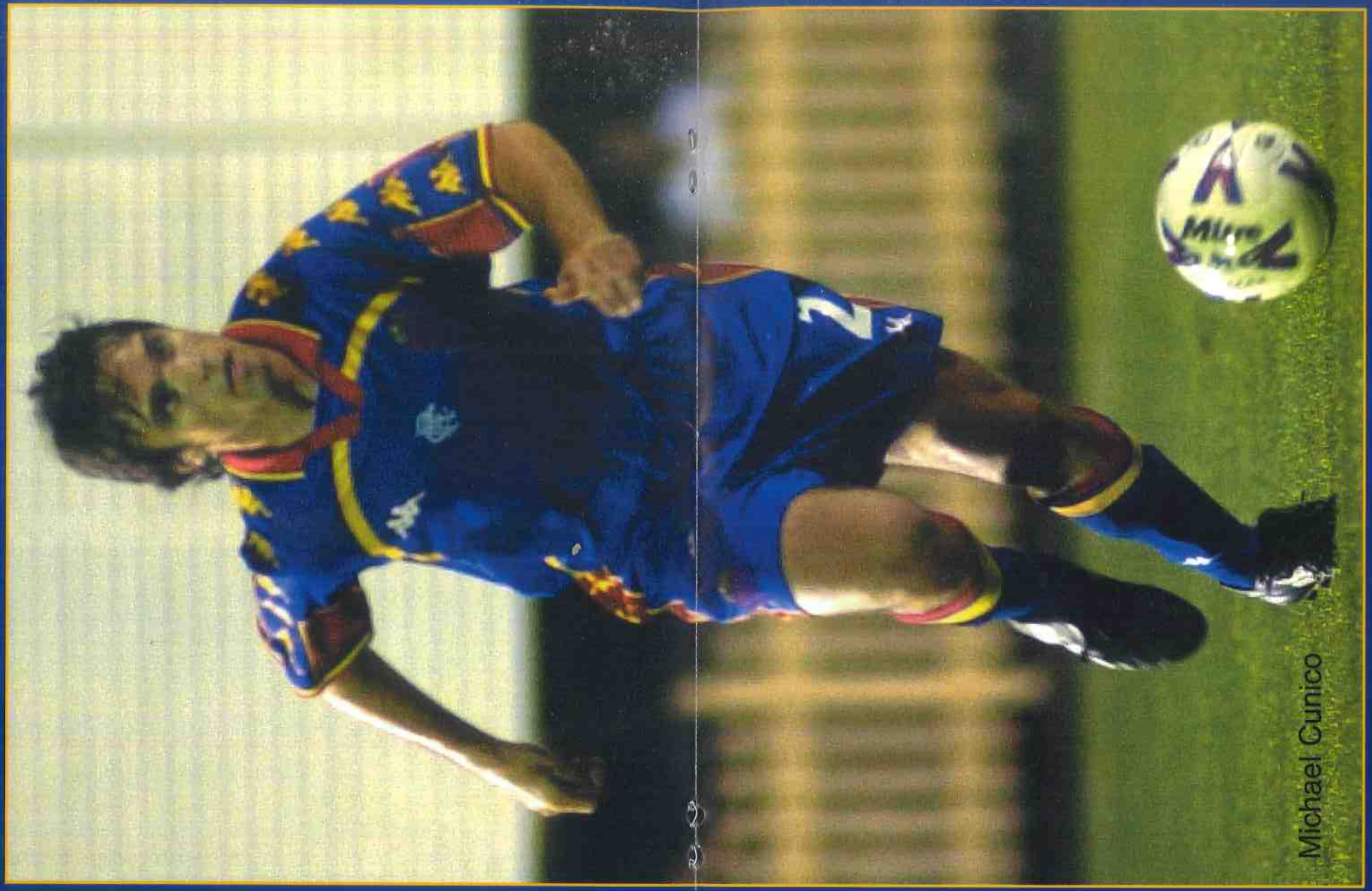
Spirit did come home with a late burst that saw Ben Burgess hit the post and substitute Alex Moreira miss a simple chance but this was to be Parramatta's night.

Sadly, results fell in a way that victory for Northern Spirit would have seen us sitting in 3rd place on the ladder - a position now occupied by Parramatta.

Despite coming up empty in front of goal the Spirit's strike force of Ben Burgess and Ryan Griffiths never gave in and Matthew Bingley was also solid in defence.



Paul Henderson



Michael Cunico

spirit round-up

R12 results

29.12.00	**Parramatta Power**	**3 - 0**	**NORTHERN SPIRIT**
29.12.00	Newcastle Breakers	1 - 1	Sydney United
29.12.00	Wollongong Wolves	4 - 2	Eastern Pride
30.12.00	Brisbane Strikers	6 - 2	Adelaide City
30.12.00	Canberra Cosmos	0 - 2	Kingz
30.12.00	Melbourne Knights	1 - 1	Perth Glory
30.12.00	South Melbourne	1 - 0	Sydney Olympic
	Marconi Stallions	BYE	

R13 draw

Fri 05.01.01	**NORTHERN SPIRIT vs Canberra Cosmos**	**7.30pm**	**North Sydney Oval**
Fri 05.01.01	Wollongong Wolves vs Kingz FC	7.30pm	WIN Stadium
Fri 05.01.01	Adelaide City Force vs Parramatta Power	8.00pm	Hindmarsh Stadium
Sat 06.01.01	Perth Glory vs Brisbane Strikers	7.00pm	Perth Oval
Sat 06.01.01	Eastern Pride vs South Melbourne	7.00pm	Mobil Park
Sat 06.01.01	Marconi Stallions vs Newcastle United	7.00pm	Marconi Stadium
Sun 07.01.01	Sydney Olympic vs Sydney United	6.30pm	Belmore Sports Ground

Bye - Melbourne Knights

2000/01 Competition ladder

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	Bye	GF	GA	PT	POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	Bye	GF	GA	PT
1	South Melbourne	12	7	3	1	1	26	8	27	9	Sydney United	12	3	4	4	1	17	20	16
2	Wollongong Wolves	12	7	2	2	1	26	15	26	10	Melbourne Knights	12	4	3	5	0	18	20	15
3	Parramatta Power	12	7	1	4	0	20	13	22	11	Canberra Cosmos	12	3	2	6	1	21	22	14
4	Perth Glory	12	5	3	3	1	22	11	21	12	Kingz FC	12	3	2	6	1	19	21	14
5	Sydney Olympic	12	5	3	3	1	19	12	21	13	Brisbane Strikers	12	3	4	5	0	19	20	13
6	**NORTHERN SPIRIT**	**12**	**4**	**4**	**3**	**1**	**16**	**11**	**19**	14	Newcastle United	12	1	5	5	1	10	20	11
7	Marconi Stallions	12	4	4	3	1	15	10	19	15	Eastern Pride	12	1	3	7	1	18	23	9
8	Adelaide City Force	12	5	1	5	1	20	24	19										

*For all matches which Carlton played, or were scheduled to play, three competition points will be awarded to their opponents with a 3-0 score.

Northern Spirit 2000/2001 National League Fixtures and results

Rnd	Date	Versus	H/A	Time/Score
1	15th Oct	Sydney United	A	1-2
2	20th Oct	Sydney Olympic	H	0-0
3	28th Oct	Eastern Pride	A	2-0
4	3rd Nov	Kingz FC	H	4-2
5	11th Nov	Newcastle Breakers	H	0-0
6	17th Nov	Adelaide City Force	A	2-3
7	24th Nov	Perth Glory	H	2-0
8	3rd Dec	Carlton	A	3-0*
9	8th Dec	Marconi Stallions	H	0-0
10	17th Dec	Melbourne Knights	A	1-1
11	22nd Dec	Brisbane Strikers	H	1-0
12	29th Dec	Parramatta Power	A	0-3
13	5th Jan	Canberra Cosmos	H	7.30pm
14	TBA	Wollongong Wolves	A	TBA
15	19th Jan	South Melbourne	H	7:30pm
16	26th Jan	Sydney United	H	5:00pm
17	4th Feb	Sydney Olympic	A	6:30pm
18	9th Feb	Eastern Pride	H	7.30pm
19	16th Feb	Kingz FC	A	7.30pm
20	23rd Feb	Newcastle Breakers	A	7.30pm
21	2nd Mar	Adelaide City Force	H	7.30pm
22	10th Mar	Perth Glory	A	7.00pm
23	16th Mar	BYE		
24	24th Mar	Marconi Stallions	A	7.00pm
25	30th Mar	Melbourne Knights	H	7.30pm
26	8th Apr	Brisbane Strikers	A	6:00pm
27	13th Apr	Parramatta Power	H	7.30pm
28	21st Apr	Canberra Cosmos	A	6:30pm
29	25th Apr	Wollongong Wolves	H	3.00pm
30	29th Apr	South Melbourne	A	3.00pm

*final score was 1-1, but now stands as a 3-0 victory.

player profile

Spirit Matchday finds out from Adam Snyder just what his favourite things are:

Adam Snyder

Nickname:	Snyd's
Height:	179cm
Weight:	70kg
Date of Birth:	16.2.80
Place of Birth:	NSW
Signed from:	N.S.W.I.S.
Previous Clubs:	Syd. Olympic, P'matta Eagles, Ku-ring-gai
Position:	Midfield/Winger
Squad Number:	23

Favourite meal:
Steak and Veggies.

Favourite pre-match meal:
Chicken and Pasta.

Favourite drink:
Water.

Favourite music:
Anything on the radio.

Worst dresser at club:
Tony Perinich.

Who will win this year's comp (excluding Northern Spirit):
South Melbourne.

Favourite player in your position:
Ryan Giggs.

Favourite player in the world:
Dennis Bergkamp.

Favourite other sports star:
Tiger Woods.

KIDS CLUB

QUICK QUIZ !!!

See how you go with these quick questions - see if you can get all three right and score a hat-trick!

1. True or False - Canberra Cosmos skipper Robbie Hooker captained Sydney Olympic to it's one and only NSL championship in 1989/90?
2. Who scored Spirit's goal against the now defunct Carlton in our 1-1 draw, that has now been classed as a 3-0 win?
3. Who is this Spirit player?

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- Quarterly Newsletter
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To join phone Spirit Headquaters NOW on **9460 2187**

Answers: 1 True 2 Alex Moreira 3 Matthew Bingley

WORD SEARCH

Included in this jumble of letters are the surnames of seven Australian's playing overseas that are listed below. The names can appear in any line - vertically, horizontally or diagonally, and can be backwards or forwards! When you've got all names, look for the name of a Northern Spirit player who won a championship medal in England...

Names:

Viduka
Okon
Zelic
Moore
Vidmar
Kewell
Skoko

a	w	e	r	o	o	m	n	r
j	m	o	m	f	l	l	s	a
r	b	f	k	r	f	l	w	n
a	c	j	l	o	k	o	n	z
m	f	z	e	o	k	o	m	v
d	c	e	d	q	u	s	o	p
i	t	l	s	l	a	t	e	r
v	v	i	d	u	k	a	d	f
n	v	c	l	l	e	w	e	k

Meet the Mascot

Congratulations to tonight's lucky OYSC winner who will be running out with the team.

Name: Kirby Ann Litterick
Age: 9
From: Umina
Favourite Player: Robbie Slater

Wordsearch answer: Robbie Slater

latest news & views

Soccer Australia has announced that in addition to the existing National Soccer League clubs, they have received applications for season 2001/2002 from new entities:

* Brisbane Lions - Queensland
* Fremantle City - Western Australia
* Western Lightening Soccer Club - Western Australia

A Review Committee will measure each application against the criteria, and all clubs will be ranked according to the assessment.

The restructured National Soccer League will involve 12 clubs and is to be announced no later than June 4, 2001.

Spirit's Ben Burgess remains at the head of the NSL 2000/2001 leading goalscoring charts, despite being unable to break the shackles of Parramatta Power's defence last Friday night at Parramatta Stadium.

Ben BURGESS Northern Spirit 7

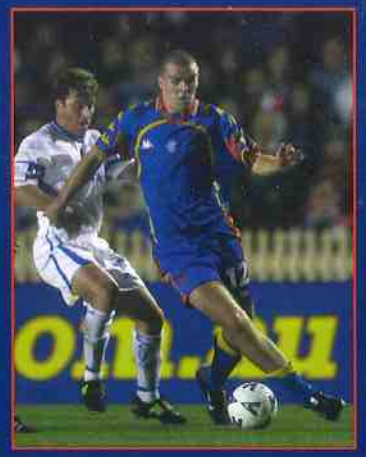
Scott CHIPPERFIELD Wollongong Wolves 7

Joe MILLER Parramatta Power 7

Andrew VLAHOS South Melbourne 7

Paul FOSTER Brisbane Strikers 6

Archie THOMPSON Carlton/Marconi Stallions 6



Ben Burgess

While honours are all square between Northern Spirit and our opponents Canberra Cosmos, interestingly neither team has yet defeated the other on home soil. In the four encounters between the two teams both teams have won twice, but our two wins have come down in the ACT. Let's hope that's one statistic we can change tonight.

Speaking of statistics, last week's loss to the Parramatta Power means we have yet to pick up a single point from them in our three meetings so far. April 13 at North Sydney Oval gives us a great chance to end that little run.

Carlton's demise hasn't just meant a re-working of the NSL league ladder, but also a huge change in the odds with the bookies. For those people out there who like a punt, SportsTAB were offering these odds on the winner of this season's NSL competition, but have now suspended the market until the odds are re-calculated. Unfortunately that means Spirit could move from $11.00 to something slightly less attractive.

Perth Glory $3.85

South Melbourne $4.00

Wollongong Wolves $5.00

Sydney Olympic $7.00

Parramatta Power $8.00

Marconi $11.00

NORTHERN SPIRIT $11.00

Adelaide Force $21.00

Melbourne Knights $21.00

Sydney United $81.00

Canberra Cosmos $81.00

Auckland Kingz $101.00

Brisbane Strikers $101.00

Newcastle United $201.00

Eastern Pride $1001.00

Northern Spirit's scheduled round 14 game with Wollongong has been postponed due to the Wolves involvement in the World Club Challenge.

Although a new date has yet to be set for the game, Spirit players won't be idle on the day, as they face the Rangers Youth team on Saturday January 13 at North Sydney Oval, kick off 5:00pm (for further details see page 20)

In the National Youth League goalscoring stakes, although Alex Brosque of Marconi Stallions Colts leads the way with 10 goals, a couple of Spirit players are doing quite well on the goalscoring front.

Both Ryan Griffiths and Simon Catanzaro were on 5 goals each after round 11 games, and have been rewarded with first team starts this season.

Simon Catanzaro

RANGERS YOUTH TEAM TOUR

Tonight sees the first game of a five-match tour by the Rangers Football Club Youth team, four of which will be played here at North Sydney Oval.

Before tonight's main game between Northern Spirit and Canberra, the Northern Spirit Youth team will play the Rangers Youth team in a match kicking off at 5:30pm.

Four days later the Rangers Youth team, which will include players who have played in the first team, travels down to Canberra to face an LG Australian Under 20 side at Bruce Stadium.

Back at North Sydney Oval on the 13th January they then face a Northern Spirit side who have a free weekend from NSL duties, and then on the 16th they will again face an LG Australian Under 20's team.

Their last match will see them up against a NSW U20 select side, kicking off at 5:05pm on Friday January 19, as a curtain raiser to our big clash with South Melbourne. The NSW U20 side will be coached by Blacktown City Demons coach Brian Brown, recently voted Coach of the Year for the NSW Super League.

The Rangers squad will be accompanied by the Rangers Director of Youth Coaching, Jan Derks, who as well as looking after the Youth squad will also report back to Rangers about the possibility of bringing the Rangers first grade squad to Australia during next season's Scottish winter shut-down.

Rangers Youth team fixture list:

Friday 5.1.01 Northern Spirit Youth v Rangers Youth North Sydney Oval 5:30pm

Tuesday 9.1.01 Rangers Youth v LG Australia U20's Bruce Stadium, Canberra 7:00pm

Saturday 13.1.01* Northern Spirit v Rangers Youth North Sydney Oval 5:00pm

Tuesday 16.1.01* Rangers Youth v LG Australia U20's North Sydney Oval 6:00pm

Friday 19.1.01 Rangers Youth v NSW U20's select North Sydney Oval 5:05pm

***Two games for the price of one.**

For tickets to the January 13 & 16 games contact Spirit Headquarters now on (02) 9460 2187

Adult $10.00 / Child $2.00 (ticket includes entry to both games).

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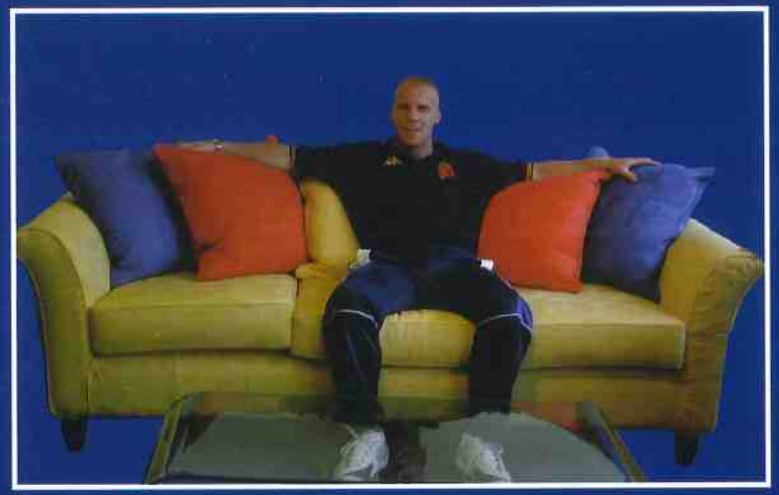
FURNITURE RENTALS



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